

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-6 have been indicated as being in allowable.

Drawings

The Office Action objects to the absence of a specific label for Figures 6A and 6B. The Office Action suggests that these drawings may be labeled as "prior art".

In response to the above-noted objection, Figures 6A and 6B have been labeled as "CONVENTIONAL ART". It is submitted that the drawings now comply with all applicable requirements and it is requested that the above-noted objection be withdrawn.

In the Specification

The Office Action objects to the description at pages 2-3 of the specification in connection with Figures 6A and 6B as failing to specifically indicate whether these drawings correspond to Japanese Application JP-A-2000-103374 which is cited on page 2. The Office Action also objects to the term "related art" used on pages 6 and 10 of the specification. The Office Action also objects to the trademark term "tetron" used at page 8 (third paragraph) of the specification.

With respect to the reference in the specification to Figures 6A and 6B, the specification has been amended so as to

clearly indicate that these figures correspond to JP-A-2000-103374, which is also cited in the specification. With regard to the term "related art", used on pages 6 and 10 of the specification, this term has been amended so as to be "conventional art", which is consistent with the amended labels of Figures 6A and 6B. With regard to the term "tetron", the specification has been amended so as to indicate that TETRON refers to a polyester-based synthetic fiber and this term has been capitalized. Consequently, it is submitted that all of these issues in connection with the specification have been resolved such that the above-noted objections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion


It is submitted for the reasons stated above, that the present application has now been placed into condition for allowance and it is requested that a Notice of Allowance issue in the near future. If any further matters arise in the present application, please contact Applicants' representative, Andrew D. Meikle, in the Washington metropolitan area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By



Andrew D. Meikle, #32,868

ADM/kdm
0080-0226P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: Replacement drawings sheet for Figures 6A and 6B

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached hereto is one (1) sheet(s) of corrected formal drawings that comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The corrected formal drawings incorporate the following drawing changes:

The Figures 6A and 6B have been labeled as "Conventional Art" on the Replacement Sheet provided.

It is respectfully requested that the corrected formal drawings be approved and made a part of the record of the above-identified application.